

A¹
percentages of water delivered to the canal system are lost before it reaches its destination. Because only a small percentage of the lost water is due to evaporation, the vast bulk of shrinkage is from seepage through the concrete liner 24. This is not surprising because close inspection of concrete lined canals reveals that large cracks are common in some areas. If large water losses are common in concrete lined canals, it is easy to understand that even larger losses are sustained in earthen or unlined canals. There are a number of techniques to repair cracked concrete lined canals, none of which have heretofore had the desirable combination of low cost and being effective.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend claims 1, 6, 13, 17 and 20, cancel claim 14, and add claims 24-29, all without prejudice, as follows:

Sub
C2
A²
1. (Amended) An open top gravity flow liquid transport canal having a length providing a direction of flow and a width and having therein an impermeable plastic liner providing a continuous impermeable unpunctured membrane extending across the canal width and along a length of the canal for minimizing leakage from the canal and at least one tab between the liner and the canal and a series of fasteners extending through the tab having a head between

Sub 2
the tab and the liner, the liner being continuous at locations spaced from and 360° around at least some of the fasteners immediately before driving the fasteners though the tab and the liner being unpunctured immediately after driving the fasteners.

Sub 3
a 3
6. (Amended) The canal of claim 1 wherein the canal has a length, a bottom and first and second side walls and a first tab extends along the length of the canal adjacent the bottom, a second tab extends along the length of the canal adjacent the first side wall and a third tab extends along the length of the canal adjacent a second side wall and wherein the fasteners extend through each tab at spaced intervals along the length of the canal.

Sub 4
a 4
13. (Amended) The canal of claim 12 further comprising an anchor extending into the earth, the fastener being secured to the anchor.

Sub 5
a 5
17. (Amended) An open top gravity flow liquid transport canal having a wall; an impermeable, imperforate plastic liner having a first side juxtaposed to the wall and a second side exposed to liquid in the canal; and a series of fasteners on the first side of the liner connecting the liner to the canal wall, at least a substantial number of the fasteners being in an area where the liner is continuous before a fastener is installed.

Sub
C5
20. (Amended) The method of lining an open top gravity flow liquid transport canal having a length providing a direction of flow, comprising

A4
providing a plastic liner having ends spaced along the length of the canal and sides providing a width wider than the canal and at least one tab on a first side of the liner intermediate the sides and ends of the liner; then

placing the liner in the canal so the first and second ends are spaced apart along the length of the canal and then placing the tab adjacent the canal;

then anchoring the liner to the canal including driving at least one fastener through the tab; and then

placing the sides of the liner over a top of the sides of the canal.

Sub
D1
A7
24. The canal of claim 1 wherein the liner has sides extending in the same direction as the canal and there are at least three tabs extending along the length of the liner, at least one of the tabs being spaced from the sides of the liner before the installation of a fastener.

25. An open top gravity flow liquid transport earthen canal having therein an impermeable plastic liner providing at least one tab

Sub D1
between the liner and the canal and a series of anchors extending into the earth in a path along a length of the canal, a member connected between adjacent anchors and a series of fasteners extending through the tab and the member at spaced intervals along the length of the canal and having a head between the tab and the liner.

Sub C6 7
26. An open top gravity flow liquid transport canal having therein an impermeable plastic liner and at least three spaced apart tabs between the liner and the canal and a series of fasteners extending through the tabs having a head between the tab and the liner for anchoring the liner to the canal, at least part of one of the tabs being in an area where the liner is continuous before a fastener is inserted through the tab.

Sub D1
27. The open top gravity flow liquid transport canal of claim 26 wherein the canal has a length providing a direction of flow in the canal and the tabs extend along the length of the canal, the liner having ends spaced along the length of the canal and sides transverse to the length, the tab where the liner is continuous before a fastener is inserted through the tab being adjacent the center of the liner.